TOWN OF WELLESLEY



COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

Wellesley Town Hall, 525 Washington Street, Wellesley, Massachusetts 02482 ${\it www.ci.wellesley.ma.us/cpa/index.html}$

Community Preservation Funds (CPA) Use: CPA funds may be used for projects in the areas of open space, recreation, housing and historical preservation. These funds are generated from a 1% surcharge on our local property tax bills and are matched by the State through increased filing fees at the local registries of deeds.

SHORT FORM PRELIMINARY APPLICATION

Date Application Delivered to CPC:			
Name of Applicant:	George A. Roman John G. Celi		
Contact Information: Address:	17 Stanford Road, Wellesley 64 Brook Street, Wellesley		
Telephone:	781.237.1839 781.235.0538		
E-Mail:	georgroman@aol.com john.g@celi.com		
Sponsoring Organization:	Wellesley Historical Society		
CPA Category (ies)	☐ OPEN SPACE / RECREATION ☐ HOUSING ☐ HISTORIC		
Brief Description of Project, including goals:	See Attachment No.1 below		
Goals	See Attachment No.2 below		
Community Need	Preservation and display of Wellesley's history		
Time Line	Study completed within 6 months of CPC funding		
Maintenance/ongoing costs	N/A		
Other pertinent information: (zoning, changes, etc.)	Unknown		
Amount of CPC Request:	See attachment No. 3 below		
Other Funding Source (s) and amount (s) of funding	WHS has and will continue to receive pro bono professional services from members		

Brief Description of Project, Attachment No.1

- Since its founding in 1925, the Wellesley Historical Society has existed to serve the Town of Wellesley by collecting, preserving, and displaying historic artifacts related to the Town's history. It is a busy, vibrant organization, bursting at the seams with memorabilia from several generations of Wellesley residents, engaged with the community, and always striving to maximize its outreach for the benefit of the Town. As part of its mission, the Society seeks to use its collections as educational resources for the community; however, this part of its mission is at risk, as lack of storage space has reached a critical juncture, limiting the Society's ability to share the wealth of its collections with the community. All but one room in the Dadmun-McNamara house is used at least partially for collection storage, making it all but impossible to display collections at the House and requiring all programs to be held elsewhere. The room that is not being used for storage is used for the Tollhouse Shop. In addition, the Society's current facility is not handicapped accessible.
- -The Wellesley Historical Society is custodian of many priceless collections relating to Wellesley's history including: Denton butterflies, family archives and manuscripts, photographs, maps, costumes and textiles, art, and a library consisting of works authored by and/or written about Wellesley residents. While serious efforts are being made to properly house these treasures, storage and controlled environmental conditions are inadequate. Temporary fixes have been implemented — window air conditioning units, two dehumidifiers, a fan in the basement and UV blocking film stapled to windows. Shelving to store artifacts has been installed in what used to be exhibit space. The Society has made great strides since a new Executive Director was hired four years ago. A new Collections Policy was written and approved by the Society's Board of Directors. Private monies were raised (\$35,000) to inventory, catalog and re-house the Costume and Textile Collection and an intern program was established with master's degree students in public history at Northeastern University. The interns (on a volunteer basis) have processed manuscript collections, inventoried the framed art collections, and entered collection information into the Society's database. The Society has many collections, however, that have not been inventoried or catalogued, such as the maps, photographs, further manuscript collections, objects, etc. Five years ago the Historical Society Board completed a long range plan. The Facilities Planning Committee of the Board, working in accordance with the long range plan, has methodically evaluated required additional space. The Society is at a crossroads. To fulfill its mission, it is imperative for the Society to alleviate the cramped conditions at its headquarters. Since the Society's annual budget is raised on a year to year basis by donations, it must look for community support for anything outside its normal operating expenses. It is the Society's hope that the community of Wellesley, through the CPC, can help it attain its goals.
- This application to the CPC is for funding a preliminary study to determine the feasibility of adding approximately 5,000 square feet onto the Dadmun-McNamara House (on long term leased land owned by the Wellesley Friendly Aid Association) and bringing the current house up to museum storage and display standards.

GOALS, Attachment No. 2

Expand and restore existing facilities in order to:

- -Enhance our educational outreach by displaying our collections to Wellesley residents of all ages.
- -Better preserve the collections for the benefit of the town.
 - To continue to expand the collections.

AMOUNT OF CPC REQUEST, Attachment No. 3

Proposed cost analysis:

- Topographical survey		\$3,000.00
- Utilities survey		\$1,500.00
- Preliminary architectural desig	n including	
floor plans and exterior elevation	\$16,000.00	
- Preliminary engineering analys	\$1,500.00	
- Three dimensional rendering		\$1,500.00
- Cost estimates		\$1,000.00
	Total	\$24,500.00